

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Uncompahgre Field Office
2465 South Townsend Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401

Decision Record

(DOI-BLM-CO-S054-2013-0024 EA)

DECISION: It is my decision to issue a commercial river Special Recreation Permit to Centennial Canoe for non-motorized use of BLM-managed portions of the Gunnison River from the Gunnison Forks Recreation Site to Confluence Park in Delta (figure 1 of the EA). The season of use for the permit will be April 1 – November 30.

MITIGATION MEASURES: Design features serve as mitigation and will be followed:

1. Overnight use in Gunnison Gorge NCA will be limited to designated campsites downriver from the Gunnison Forks.
2. Camping will be allowed adjacent to the river in North Delta OHV Area. In order to limit recreational impacts, a primitive campsite will be designated. A 30'x30' area will be cleared of brush and a small access trail from the river will be maintained.
3. BLM Colorado standard SRP stipulations will apply. Lower Gunnison River stipulations and Forks to Austin stipulations will apply (Appendix A).
4. Fire pans will be required. Campfires will be located away from the cottonwood canopy.
5. No firewood gathering will be allowed.

MONITORING: Special Recreation Permits will be required to follow standard SRP stipulations as well as stipulations shown on Appendix A of the EA. BLM Recreation staff will monitor permittees to ensure compliance.

RATIONALE: The analysis of the proposed action did not identify any impacts that would be significant in nature either in either context or intensity. The permit provides for the availability of recreational opportunities which are not readily available from other sources and does not harm other resources. The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area Resource Management Plan and the Uncompahgre Basin Resource Management Plan. The Proposed Action does not constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the human environment.

COMPLIANCE WITH MAJOR LAWS:

The decision is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policy, including the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act and National Historic Preservation Act.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

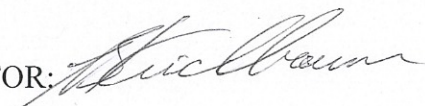
A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was prepared, based on the information contained in the EA and my consideration of criteria for significance (40 CFR 1508.27). It is my determination that: 1) the implementation of the proposed action will not have significant environmental impacts; 2) the Proposed Action is in conformance with the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area and Uncompahgre Basin Resource Management Plans; and 3) the Proposed Action does not constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary.

APPEALS:

Within 30 days of receipt of this decision, you have the right of appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at 43 CFR 4.400. Appeal and stay procedures are outlined in Form CO-050-1842-1.

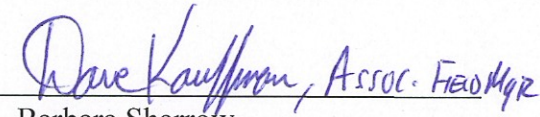
NAME OF PREPARER: Edd Franz

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:



DATE 7-2-2013

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL


for Barbara Sharrow
Field Manager
Uncompahgre Field Office

DATE SIGNED July 3, 2013